

Message Text

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ORIGIN PM-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 SP-02
CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 ACDA-12
MCE-00 AID-05 EB-08 L-03 PA-01 /090 R

DRAFTED BY PM/SAS:D KEEN :RF
APPROVED BY PM - RAERICSON
EUR/NE - MR. NEWLIN
NEA/IRN - MR. GREENE (INFO)
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TO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
USMISSION USNATO
SECDEF WASHDC 0205
CNO
USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 107404

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: MASS, IR, NL, US

SUBJECT:DUTCH FRIGATES FOR IRAN

REF: TEHRAN 3199

1. DUTCH CHARGE HENDRYK PHILIPSE, ACCOMPANIED BY FIRST SECRETARY JORVIS VOS CALLED ON ACTING PM DIRECTOR ERICSON APRIL 20 TO PRESS CASE FOR USG AGREEMENT TO PROVIDE U.S. WEAPONS SYSTEMS FOR DUTCH FRIGATES FOR IRAN. IN ADDITION TO MAKING NOW FAMILIAR ARGUMENTS IN FAVOR OF SALE, PHILIPSE LEFT AIDE MEMOIRE DETAILING EXACTLY WHAT DUTCH SEEKING AT
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THIS TIME.

2. ESSENTIALLY DUTCH SEEK OUR AGREEMENT TO PROVIDE HARPOON AND TARTAR LAUNCH SYSTEMS. IN RESPONSE TO QUERY, VOS STATED THAT DUTCH ENVISION THAT MISSILES WOULD BE SUBJECT OF LATER DIRECT USG SALE TO IRAN.

3. WHEN ASKED ABOUT PHALANX, MK-46 LAUNCHER SYSTEM AND DATA HANDLING SYSTEM, VOS STATED THAT DUTCH WERE SEEKING AGREEMENT ONLY FOR HARPOON AND TARTAR SYSTEMS NOW. OTHER SYSTEMS MIGHT BE REQUESTED LATER.

4. VOS FURTHER STATED DUTCH BELIEVED PRICE OF SYSTEMS IN

\$200 MILLION RANGE. ERICSON SAID ROUGH PRELIMINARY ESTIMATE WAS AT LEAST \$800 MILLION FOR ALL SYSTEMS.

5. ERICSON DESCRIBED STATE OF PLAY IN USG CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSAL. STATE HAD ASKED DEFENSE TO ANALYZE REQUEST FIRST TO SEE IF SYSTEMS COULD BE MADE AVAILABLE WHEN NEEDED AND IF US NAVY ABLE TO SUPPORT THE SYSTEMS IF SOLD. THESE PRACTICAL ASPECTS HAD TO BE FIRST CONSIDERED BEFORE WE COULD GO INTO POLICY ASPECTS OF REQUEST. WORLDWIDE ARMS TRANSFER DOLLAR CEILING ALSO DISCUSSED.

6. IT WAS SUGGESTED THAT INCLUSION OF U.S. WEAPONS SYSTEMS MIGHT NOT BE SINE QUA NON OF DUTCH SALE AS IRAN WOULD PRESUMABLY TURN TO WESTERN EUROPEAN SYSTEMS IF U.S. COULD NOT SUPPLY SYSTEMS. PHILIPSE RESPONDED THAT U.S. SYSTEMS CURRENTLY PART OF THE CONTRACT. WITHOUT THE U.S. SYSTEMS, CONTRACT WOULD HAVE TO BE RENEGOTIATED, WHICH WOULD BE QUOTE VERY DIFFICULT UNQUOTE. VANCE

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Message Attributes

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